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10/709,882	06/03/2004	Hayato Ariyoshi	SIMTEK6905	3881
25776	7590	11/29/2006	EXAMINER	
ERNEST A. BEUTLER, ATTORNEY AT LAW 10 RUE MARSEILLE NEWPORT BEACH, CA 92660			LE, DANG D	
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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES**

Application Number: 10/709,882
Filing Date: June 03, 2004
Appellant(s): ARIYOSHI ET AL.

Kabushiki Kaisha Morie
For Appellant

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed October 4, 2006 appealing from the Office action mailed January 20, 2006.

(1) Real Party in Interest

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

(3) Status of Claims

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) Status of Amendments After Final

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

(7) Claims Appendix

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

(8) Evidence Relied Upon

5,900,687	Kondo et al.	5-1999
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(9) Grounds of Rejection

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kondo et al. (5,900,687).

Regarding claim 10, Kondo et al. shows a terminal structure (Figure 2) for interconnecting coil ends in a plural phase rotary electrical machine and adapted to be mounted at one axial end of a core (top, Figure 1) having a plurality of circumferentially spaced pole teeth (1) around which electrical coils (2) are wound, said terminal structure comprising a plurality of interconnected (at 3b, shown in Figure 6) conductors (3) equal in number to at least the number of phases (3 phases) and bonded (column 4, lines 25-35) in spaced relationship to each other, the interconnected conductors of each of said phase interconnected each having at least two circumferentially spaced terminal end portions (3b, Figure 2) for receiving a coil wire end from a respective one of said coil windings (Figures 5-7).

Regarding claim 11, it is noted that Kondo et al. also shows the phases being axially spaced from each other (Figure 4).

Regarding claim 12, it is noted that Kondo et al. also shows the each phase-specific terminal member being made of plural connecting pieces comprised of arcs of concentric circles (Figure 2).

Regarding claim 13, it is noted that Kondo et al. also shows the interconnected conductors of each of the phases all lying in a common axial plane (Figure 6 and admitted by the applicant in paper dated 11/06/05).

(10) Response to Argument

The examiner would respectfully like to point out that Kondo et al. shows more than one way to connect the coil windings (2) having coil ends in a three-phase stator. Kondo et al. utilizes the end plate (7) as a supporting member with grooves (7a) to support the electrical conductors identified as 3a, 4a, and 5a with the ends 3b, 4b, and 5b, respectively. Figures 5 and 6 show one embodiment where the caulking member 9 extending radially and lying in a common axial plane defined by the surface of the end plate 7. In contrast, Figure 7 shows another embodiment where the caulking member 9 extending axially. In other words, Kondo et al. shows two locations of the connection between the coil ends and the terminal end portions as long as “the connected portions do not extend beyond the outer diameter of the stator” column 4, lines 24-25. Also please see column 4, lines 14-23 for detailed explanation of Figures 5-7.

The examiner agrees that Figures 5-7 do not show any axial spacing as recited in claim 11. However, Figure 4 shows the axial spacing because the electrical conductors 3a, 4a, and 5a are stacked one on top of another in the groove of the end plate 8, which is different from the end plate 7. Please see column 4, lines 10-13.

With the use of the end plate 8 shown in Figure 4 and the connection shown in Figure 6, Kondo et al. clearly indicates the interconnected conductors of each of the phases all lie in a common axial plane defined by the ends of the stator coil (2) and the ends 3b, 4b, and 5b of the electrical conductors 3a, 4a, and 5a. This is possible because the electrical conductors 3a, 4a,

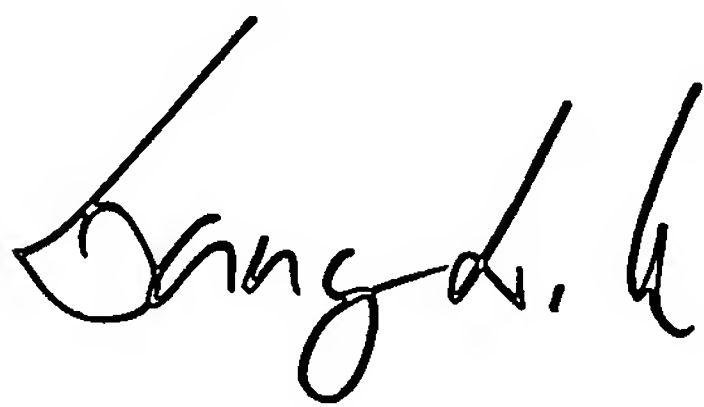
and 5a, respectively have the ends 3b, 4b, and 5b, which could have the same length or different length and could be bent easily.

(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,



DANGLE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

11/19/06

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Conferees:

Darren Schuberg 

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